

Message

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on behalf of ECOS [ecos@ecos.org]
Sent: 9/21/2018 7:28:27 PM
To: Beck, Nancy [Beck.Nancy@epa.gov]
Subject: Montana Member Moving to Another Agency, Michigan and Pennsylvania Take Action on PFAS, & More

Montana Member Moving to Another Agency, Michigan and Pennsylvania Take Action on PFAS, & More

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ECOSWIRE

Friday, September 21, 2018

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Montana's Tom Livers Moving to Montana Budget Office



Tom Livers

Photo Credit: Montana DEQ

Montana Governor Steve Bullock has tapped Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Director Tom Livers to serve as State Budget Director effective September 25. Livers has been at the helm of DEQ since 2014 and previously worked for more than a decade as Deputy Director and headed the Technical and Financial Assistance Bureau.

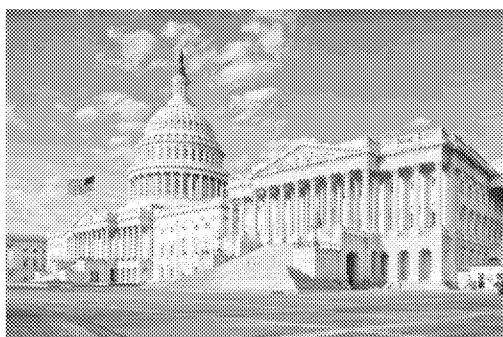
ECOS congratulates Livers on his new Cabinet position and wishes him well! His DEQ successor has not yet been named. [Parisien]

ECOS Seeks Participants for Results Measures Workgroup

As ECOS approaches one year of ECOSResults.org, the association will collect feedback from states on the common measures and how they help tell stories of environmental protection at the state level. A state workgroup will be convened in the coming months to work with the web developer to make changes as needed to ECOSResults.org and the common measures.

If you would like to participate in a workgroup to review and revise the measures, please contact Connor MacCartney of ECOS. For more information on past work, see here. [MacCartney]

Senate Passes Temporary Government Funding through December 7



On September 18, the Senate passed a combination Continuing Resolution (CR) and "minibus" funding measure that provides Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 funding for federal

agencies including U.S. EPA through December 7. The move suggests that House and Senate lawmakers have not settled on an FY19 EPA funding arrangement since entering into conference negotiations on September 6.

At a hearing last week, Democrats from the Senate, which passed a "clean" version of the bill, complained of "poison pill environmental riders" in the House bill. The House is expected to pass the CR/minibus next week following a recess. [McAleer]

EPA Denies Clean Air Act § 126(b) Petitions from Maryland and Delaware

On September 14, U.S. EPA Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler signed a "notice of final action" denying Clean Air Act (CAA) § 126(b) petitions from Maryland and Delaware filed in 2016. The petitions, four from Delaware and one from Maryland, requested reductions in emissions of ozone-forming nitrogen dioxide from specific power plants in upwind states – Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

EPA maintains that existing programs, like the recent Cross-State Air Pollution Update Rule, that require cost-effective emissions reductions from all of the named sources will address the concerns of the petitioning states.

Both Maryland and Delaware have indicated that they will continue to press their concerns. [Poole]

State News You Can Use

[Michigan Uses Drones to Detect PFAS, Conducts Public Water System Testing](#)

Pennsylvania Establishes Multi-Agency Action Team to Address PFAS Concerns

West Virginia Plans \$50 Million Worth of Water Quality Improvements

Washington State Cleanup and Redevelopment Grant Yields Commerce

Need-to-Know News in Air & Water

U.S. EPA Announces Winners of Wildland Fire Sensors Challenge

Area of Focus: Air

This week, U.S. EPA announced the winners of a Wildland Fire Sensors Challenge, which encouraged the development of innovative monitoring technologies to measure air pollutants from smoke during wildland fires. To select the winners, EPA and the U.S. Forest Service conducted two-phase laboratory testing of each contending technology, and a panel of technical experts reviewed the results for prototypes that are portable, durable, reliable, and wireless. Winning systems showed promise in design and ability to detect fine particulate matter, ozone, carbon monoxide, and carbon dioxide.

To learn more about the Wildland Fire Sensors Challenge, see [here](#). [Longsworth]

U.S. EPA Briefs Intergovernmental Associations on Peak Flows, Calls for State Input

Area of Focus: [Water](#)

This week, U.S. EPA's Office of Wastewater Management provided a briefing to ECOS and other association representatives to discuss forthcoming regulatory changes vis-a-vis wet weather management at certain municipal wastewater treatment plants. Rainwater that inadvertently enters sewer systems increases flows to wastewater treatment plants, often creating operational challenges.

In April, EPA announced a new rulemaking to look at issues associated with managing and treating peak flows during wet weather events at publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) with separate sanitary sewer systems. Through this action, EPA will institute changes to its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System regulations to establish a transparent and lasting approach to permitting flexible peak flow management strategies.

Recognizing the years of experience that states and others have in managing wet weather challenges to POTWs, EPA is conducting outreach to gather critical input prior to proposing any changes to these regulations. EPA is accepting public comments until **October 31** and will hold three public listening sessions in October.

Learn more about the peak flows management rule and opportunities to provide input [here](#). [Swanson]

Comprehensive Summary of WRDA Legislation Now Available

Area of Focus: [Water](#)

As reported in the September 14 edition of *ECOSWIRE*, the House last week unanimously passed [America's Water Infrastructure Act](#), bill S. 3021, a bipartisan combination of two versions of Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) legislation developed earlier this year by the House and Senate with a Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) reform bill [approved](#) last summer by the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

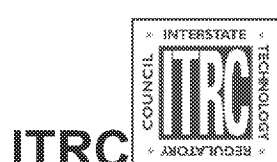
A comprehensive summary of the bill is now available [here](#). [Piper]

Information, Please

States Asked to Provide Information on Resource Efficiency Policies

ECOS recently received a request for information on state resource efficiency policies, specifically whether states have been tracking goals on production, consumption, and recycling/the circular economy. The goal of the research is to build an international knowledge base of best practices and experiences in resource efficiency.

If your state has prioritized work in these areas or would like more information about the research, please contact [Connor MacCartney](#). [MacCartney]



[Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council](#)

ITRC Hosts 10 PFAS Training Events across the Country

The ITRC per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) team is hosting a series of training events led by experts from state and federal agencies, academia, and private industry. The training events will explore the key elements for characterizing and managing PFAS impacted sites. Topics of discussion include: site characterization (sampling and analysis),

complex mechanisms that impact fate and transport, current and potential remediation technologies, AFFF, and PFAS risk communications. The training events are free for state and federal employees, academics, and public stakeholders. Travel scholarships are available for state staff in limited quantity for each of the events.

Please visit the [ITRC PFAS Training](#) website to register. To inquire about travel scholarships, please contact [Tadbir Singh](#) of ITRC. [Singh]



E-Enterprise for the Environment

E-Enterprise

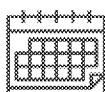
Reminder: ECOS Seeks Expressions of Interest by Today for EELC Vacancies

ECOS is seeking expressions of interest from state commissioners or other high-level state officials to serve on the E-Enterprise for the Environment Leadership Council (EELC). With the election of a new slate of ECOS officers, Vice President Jim Macy becomes the EELC State Co-Chair, leaving a member vacancy. The second vacancy is to fill the seat of Bryan Shaw of Texas, who has retired. States are asked to please express interest to [Beth Graves](#) of ECOS by **September 21**.

The EELC is composed of ten U.S. EPA senior executives, ten state commissioners (or other high-level state officials), and ten tribal representatives. Two in-person EELC meetings are held each year, as well as conference calls held approximately every six weeks. The next meeting is planned for Washington, DC on **September 26-27**. ECOS has funds to support state travel to EELC meetings. [Graves]

Upcoming Events

Calls and Webinars



ECOS PFAS Caucus Call

ECOS will hold its first PFAS Caucus call on **September 25 at 3-4 p.m. Eastern**. The call will address the goals of the caucus and provide an opportunity to hear from states involved in recent regulatory and investigatory efforts.

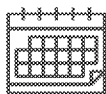
The PFAS Caucus, ECOS' newest working group, promotes the exchange of information and best practices among state and federal agency staff. The calls will be held bimonthly on the months opposite the ECOS-U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development technical PFAS workgroup.

To get involved, email [Sarah Grace Longworth](#) of ECOS. [Longworth]

ITRC Training Classes and Webinars

The Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) invites your participation in several upcoming training opportunities:

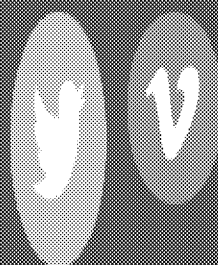
- [Petroleum Vapor Intrusion: Fundamentals of Screening, Investigation, and Management](#) - **September 25, 1-3:15 p.m. Eastern**, Webinar
- [Petroleum Vapor Intrusion](#) - **October 10-11**, Seattle, Washington
- [Managing PFAS Contamination at Your Site](#) - **October 12**, Montclair, New Jersey
- [Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids \(LNAPL\)](#) - **October 12**, St. Louis, Missouri



U.S. EPA on Water Reuse

U.S. EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) will host its monthly tools and resources webinar on **October 17 at 3-4 p.m. Eastern**. Given increasing pressures on water resources, many communities are developing centralized systems for planned water reuse. ORD is working with the National Blue Ribbon Commission for Onsite Non-Potable Water Systems (ONWS), a coalition of state and local groups established to advance best management practices to support the use of ONWSs. This webinar will highlight the key issues limiting adoption of these ONWSs, and will summarize the work to date and ongoing collaboration.

To register for the webinar, see [here](#). [Longworth]



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